



Docket No. 150.01140101

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Sinha et al.) Group Art Unit: 2812
Serial No.: 10/028,040)
Confirmation No.: 2997)
Examiner: Unknown)
Filed: December 21, 2001)

For: METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF GROUP VIII METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING COMPLEXING AGENTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

For various desired effects, a planarization composition can optionally and preferably include an oxidizing agent to aid in the planarization. Examples of suitable planarization compositions are disclosed in Applicant's Assignee's copending U.S. Patent Applications: Serial Number 10/028,249, filed on December 21, 2001 entitled METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF GROUP VIII METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING OXIDIZING AGENTS; and Serial Number 10/032,357, filed on December 21, 2001 entitled METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF GROUP VIII METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING OXIDIZING GASES.